

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, and amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William J. Allen (Reg. No. 51,393) on 5/5/2009.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph entitled "Related Applications" on page 1, line 7, with the following paragraph:

Related Applications

This patent application is a divisional application claiming priority to U.S. Patent Application entitled, "Messaging Application Layer Over Ethernet to Transport Layer (TCP) Communications Method and Apparatus for a Modular Terminal Input/Output System," Application No. 09/804,362, filed March 12, 2001, Granted October 15, 2002 as U.S. Patent No. 6,466,695 ~~currently pending~~, which is a continuation of Application No. 09/166,870, filed October 6, 1998, and Granted May 15, 2001 as U.S. Patent No. 6,233,626 in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to J. Bret Dennison whose telephone number is 571-272-3910. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 9am-5:30pm Eastern.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tonia Dollinger can be reached on (571) 272-4170. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/J Bret Dennison/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2443